

Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex

Michael Rosenberger— April Player of the Month

When did you start playing Tennis and why? I was grabbed as a hitting partner at the Arizona Biltmore when I was in college. I hit occasionally over a few years, but knew nothing about tennis. I did play racquetball competitively for years though. About 3 years ago I was on the racquetball courts at STRC and I had a few other players talk me into getting “out of the box” and outside on the courts. That was it. I haven’t looked back since.

Why do you love the game of Tennis? It is really a sport for all ages and abilities, and I love seeing all the people outside staying active. And as much as I love the social or fun side of tennis, I also like to be competitive and continue to try to improve my game. I love the challenge of it.

What has playing Tennis done for you? I use it as my down time from work and the every day grind of things. Even my bad days on the court, as internally frustrating as they might be, it helps keep me motivated.

What do you like best about playing at the STRC? The facility is top notch and I don’t believe you will find a more helpful and friendly staff. The other players are amazingly supportive and just an absolute wonderful group of people to play and compete with.

What is your favorite shot to hit? Well, if you ask anyone who has played with me, it just depends on who I have watched on YouTube or TV that day. With whatever shot it is, I always say, “I saw _____ do that.” Of course, I might only hit it correctly 1 out of 10 times trying, but for that one shot I am Federer, Nadal,, or ????. I do LOVE a solid one-handed backhand though.

What tips/advice can you share with new players? Stay positive - and I am saying this as a tip to myself as much as anyone else. It is so easy to get wrapped up in what you aren’t doing, or should be doing, and you forget about what is going right. I am finding more and more that things spiral down much quicker when I focus on the bad over the good. As silly as it sounds, remind yourself that you are having fun.



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